

THE DEFENDER

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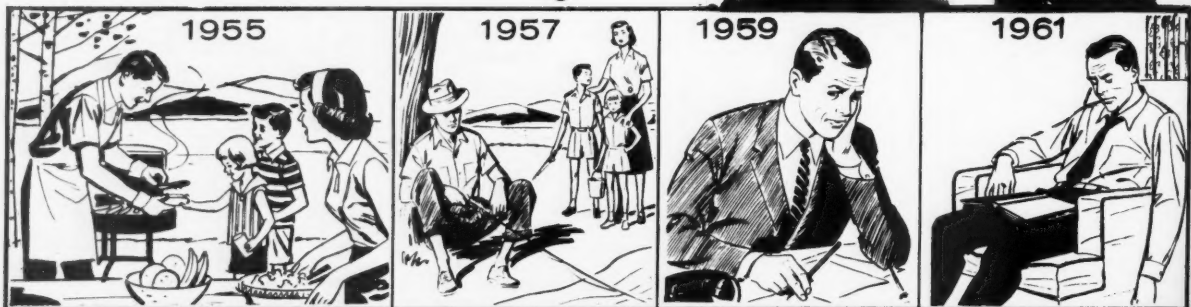
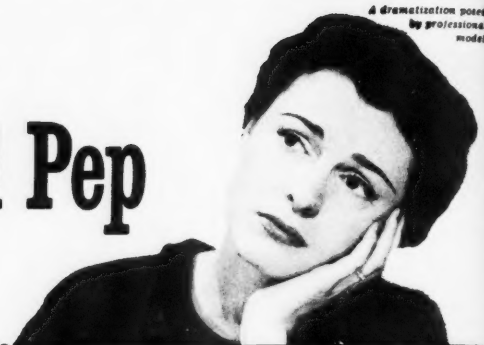
March 1961



In This Issue

- **The Miracles of Calvary**
- **Void — If Detached**

What's Left of My Husband's Natural Pep and Vitality?



WHEN John and I were first married, I was the happiest person on earth! I had a strong, energetic, loving husband who knew how to work hard and play hard. Our marriage was perfect. But little by little, my husband seemed to lose his energy, pep and drive. He stopped getting excited over "moving up" in his job. He had always loved tennis, but I remember the day he decided not to go to the courts again. It just seemed that the joy of living was leaving him.

Finally, when he began to talk about how "old" he was — when his idea of an exciting evening was to go to sleep on the living room sofa — when our children began to complain that Daddy was always grouchy for no reason at all — I knew I had to do something or our family would break up. Sure enough, our doctor had the answer.

After giving John a thorough examination, the doctor told us that there was nothing really wrong. Although he was normally healthy otherwise, John's loss of energy and pep was due to a deficiency of certain essential vitamins and minerals in his diet! Well, luckily for us, I remembered a Vitasafe advertisement I had seen a few days before, and I quickly sent for the 30-day supply of high-potency capsules that was offered.

That was the start of my husband's new lease on the joys of living. Best of all, my children and I have won back the companionship of the man we love!

If you or someone you love seems healthy, yet feels tired and run-down, a trial of Vitasafe Comprehensive Formula Capsules may be the answer. Send for a free 30-day supply by mailing the certificate today!

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one of the people who needs this extra supply of vitamins. In that case, VITASAFE C.F. CAPSULES may be "just what the doctor ordered" — because they contain the most frequently recommended food supplement formula for people in this category!

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The Defender

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Do You Wonder
What Makes You
**SO DEAD
TIRED?**



A dramatization posed by professional model

I used to feel weak and run-down from the moment I woke up in the morning to the time I tumbled into bed at night. Believe me, taking care of a home and family is a hard enough job even when you feel good. But trying to be a good mother and wife when you barely have the strength to move around would make any woman a wreck!

I found myself getting upset by almost everything. I became mean and irritable with the children. I'd start arguments with my husband over the smallest things. I finally decided to see our family doctor.

After examining me, the doctor explained that my tiredness and nervousness was caused by a lack of important vitamins and minerals in my diet. This deficiency, he explained, caused otherwise normally healthy men and women to feel run-down and irritable. To help correct my condition he recommended I add a good food supplement to my daily diet.

I sent away for a trial supply of Vitasafe High-Potency Capsules that I had seen advertised. In just a few weeks my energy came back. I felt like a new woman and was glad to continue with the Vitasafe Plan. If you feel tired, nervous and miserable, why not send for your trial supply by mailing the certificate today!

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In the Realm of the Dynamic

BY GWYNNE W. DAVIDSON, D.D.

President

Defenders of the Christian Faith, Inc.



WHEN GOD TOLD GIDEON that he was to save Israel from her enemies, the young farmer shrank back in fear and sought refuge in excuses.

"How can I save Israel?" he inquired of the Lord. "My family is poor and I am the least in my father's house."

Never before had Gideon faced such a pivotal decision. It was indeed the turning point of his life. He could continue with the poor and be the least or he could move with God in the realm of the dynamic. Fortunately for him and for Israel, Gideon made the right choice.

Sooner or later in life, most of us reach a crisis hour, a turning point, when destiny hinges on a single decision. Like Gideon the right choice spells the difference between the dynamic and the routine.

A missionary to India gives us a picture of what the routine can sometimes mean. He describes a certain village which was situated on a hill. The religious temples were located there. As time passed, the city gradually moved some miles away, down on the plains, and left the priests carrying on as usual in empty temples.

Religion had been left standing by deserted altars, out of touch with the throbbing problems of the people, who lived some distance away.

A ROUTINE EXISTENCE does one of two things: it causes us to be satisfied with *status quo* or gives us a nostalgic longing for the "good old days" of the past. We get to the place where we are afraid of anything new and untried and cling childishly to the safer, more conventional world with which we are familiar.

Jesus Christ always moved in the realm of the dynamic. He was never afraid of the untried. His public ministry was characterized by one innovation after another, not just to be different for difference sake, but because of His compassion for the people. He released energy, ideals, power into human society. His fame spread.

His dynamics "rubbed off" on His disciples. He challenged them to do mighty things . . . and they did!

Jesus startled the conventional world of His day. He spent 30 years in preparation, ministered dynamically for only three and a half years, and turned the world upside down.

Before He left, He again startled His disciples by calling them together and saying to them, "Greater things than these shall ye do."

YOU AND I CAN STEP out in this generation and offer hope to every man, woman and child. We can do this, not because of any ability of our own, but because of Jesus' promise to be with us and to help us.

An old preacher of bygone days had three personal resolutions to enable him to avoid the stagnation of routine:

(1) To preach a gospel 1900 years old, but up-to-date today.

(2) To never be dull. "I do not care if people cry, or laugh, or hiss or applaud, just so they will be stirred for God."

And (3) to smite sin wherever he found it.

Do these things, as he did, in your own way and in your own sphere of service, and you too will move with God in the realm of the dynamic.

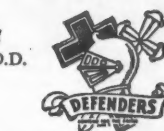
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The Defender

views the news

comment on vital issues of the day

• Stepped up use of atomic energy has brought an alarming increase in leukemia (cancer of the bone marrow). So says Dr. Hobart E. Stocking, former chief geologist for the Atomic Energy Commission, in a statement to the **Daily Oklahoman**. Dr. Stocking declares that human beings are being subjected daily to an increasing hail of atomic bullets. "The whole thing is a nightmare," he adds. ... He describes what happens to strontium 90 after a nuclear explosion: "The radius of the blast may be only one mile or two miles, but these radioactive particles are sent into the atmosphere and fall on every square mile of the earth's surface. Every human being on earth gets a dose of this radiation. The danger of radiation has grown every year since the first bomb was set off."

• Reports are that the Administration is gravely concerned about our position in the Congo. We are obliged to back the United Nations, but from all indications the U.N. has bungled the job of bringing the warring native factions together for an amicable settlement of the African problems. ... Wouldn't it be ironical if the United States got involved in a war once again over the Negro? ... Soviet Russia seems determined to keep stirring up trouble, and Khrushchev seems eager to add fuel to the fire in Africa by siding in with Antoine Gizenga, the successor to the late jailbird premier of the Congo, Patrice Lumumba.

• Here is an ominous note: The "Nation of Islam," a Negro cult, is growing rapidly in this country. Its objectives are (1) to gain superiority over the white man, and (2) to set up a separate Negro country within the confines of the U.S. ... Many prayers are needed to save this country from bitter internecine strife. God forbid that we ever have to pit race against race in America. ... While this Negro cult is making headway, we feel that most American Negroes would never support such a movement.

• Fidel's arch enemies continue to plot his downfall, and it appears only a matter of time until he passes into oblivion. But while he's still in the saddle, Castro is making his presence known. He is taking on the hierarchy of the Catholic church. He now plans to nationalize all Catholic private schools and cemeteries. ...

• Note to the five million-plus now out of work across the U.S.: The recession is over. So says a group of leading businessmen from the East. These men say the downward trend in our economy has reached its low point and is now showing indications of "starting back up." By the end of June, things ought to be looking up. ... Meanwhile, state welfare agencies over the country report a brisk business, and unemployment has reached the highest mark in years. ... One result of the recession: Auto dealers are fully stocked and are making all kinds of deals to get rid of their merchandise.

The significance of the miracle
of opening up the graves

The Miracles of Calvary

BY DR. TOM MALONE

"And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many." —Matthew 27:52-53.

SEVEN MIRACULOUS things happened in connection with the death of Jesus Christ.

The first miracle was that of the darkness. Matthew writes that there was darkness over all the land from the sixth hour until the ninth hour. Darkness speaks of judgment. And it was an hour of judgment, for God was judging the sins of the human family in the person of Jesus Christ.

The second miracle was that of the earthquake. At the time Jesus died, an earthquake shook all the land of Palestine. The evidence of that upheaval in nature can be seen at the hill of Calvary until this very day, in the strange formation of the earth and the peculiar collection of rocks and stones.

The third miracle took place a few hundred yards from the cross, in the Temple.

In the inner court of the Temple was a huge and costly veil weighing hundreds of pounds and partitioning off the Holy of Holies. When Jesus died, an unseen hand took hold of that veil and rent it from top to bottom, *not from the bottom to the top*, showing that salvation comes from God downward to lost men.

The fourth miracle was that of fulfilled prophecy. The death of Christ on the cross was not an accident. It was the fulfillment of God's plan before He ever made the world.

God had promised in ages past that Jesus would die as a lamb slain. The Old Testament is filled with one prophecy after another, telling how Jesus would die and giving the details of His death. Not a single prophecy pertaining to His death was omitted.

Transformation

The fifth miracle was that of the conversion of the dying thief. There on the cross, a few minutes from eternity, a malefactor was saved. The transformation that takes place in the life of a sinful man when he, in childlike faith and repentance of sin, claims the Son of God as his personal Saviour is always a miracle.

The sixth miracle was that of the way in which Jesus died. Before His crucifixion, He had said, "No man taketh my life from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again."

Jesus Christ was in full command. He was not only the Lamb upon the altar, but He was the Priest who offered the Lamb. Jesus Christ was not only the one being executed, but He Himself, thank God, was the executioner. *Jesus gave Himself.*

The seventh miracle was one that very few of us ever think about. It was the miracle of the resurrection of the saints of God at the very time Jesus died.

The Bible plainly teaches that the world was in darkness. Three crosses stood on Calvary's hill and Jesus was nailed to the center cross. There He

hung, crowned with thorns, a dying thief on either side. God's omnipotent hand pushed back the sun and the whole world was covered in darkness.

In the midst of that darkness, the earthquake opened the graves of believers while Jesus was dying. Three days after the opening of the graves, when Jesus rose from the dead, the Bible says these saints came out also. How many we do not know; but these believers raised from the dead walked out of the graves, went into the city of Jerusalem after the resurrection of Jesus, walked down the streets, found their homes, knocked on the doors and were reunited with their families.

This is one of four instances in the New Testament where people were raised from the dead. *What is the significance of the miracle of opening up the graves?*

Out of death

First of all, out of death comes life. That, my friends, is taught all through the Bible. There is no spiritual life apart from death.

When God went into the Garden of Eden, He found Adam and Eve had fallen into sin. He clothed them with the skins of animals. The animals were innocent, but man was guilty. There you find the truth of the innocent dying for the guilty. That fact is taught throughout the Bible.

God gave resurrection life to a group of believers and brought them out of the grave. We have the lesson

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that out of death comes life. Apart from the death of Jesus on the cross, apart from God giving His Son, there can never come spiritual life to you, me, or anyone else. *Out of death comes life.*

The Bible teaches secondly that out of suffering comes joy. Notice the two pictures.

You will never see a greater scene of suffering no matter where you go, no matter what you see. No doctor, no nurse has ever seen a greater scene of suffering than the people saw who looked upon Calvary.

There is no death that equals in suffering and anguish the death of crucifixion. It is the cruelest form of execution the human mind has ever conceived. There is nothing else like it. The Psalmist in describing it said, "All my bones are pulled out of joint, I am like a worm writhing in anguish."

Here is a scene of suffering. But oh out of that suffering comes joy. The saints arose and went into the city.

In Jerusalem

I can see a mother and father sitting in their home in Jerusalem. I can see the sad face of the man; I can see the woman bent and stooped with head bowed.

She is thinking of the patter of a baby's feet. She is thinking of the time when she picked up a little child, brushed it off and dried its tears. He is thinking of a grown young man, who went to the fields for the first time to work with him.

They are sitting there and are saying, "Oh, how we miss our son since he died."

In a moment there comes a rap at the door. The mother says, "Dad, go to the door. Someone is there."

I can see him go. I can see his hand reach toward Heaven and he shouts, "Mother, it's our boy!"

I can see a man with a little brood of children. I can see him comfort the baby and dry the tears of others. I can see him gathering them about himself in his household. They have lost their mother. There comes a rap at the door and he goes and says, "My God, I thought you were dead!"

I can see an old gray haired man

who had buried his life's mate and sat through many a lonely and dark hour, go to the door and cry, "My God, Mother, I thought you were gone forever."

Oh the joys in the homes of Jerusalem that night. Shouts of people were heard everywhere.

A little boy

I recently heard of a little boy who took sick and died. The little boy was old enough to go to Sunday School. He had been studying the Tabernacle in the Old Testament and all that it means.

The last Sunday the teacher had taught him about the outer court and how the people could go in to pray and worship, but could not go beyond the veil.

She said, "Now, children, next Sunday we are going to go beyond the veil. We will study what is beyond the veil, and study about the Mercy Seat where the blood is sprinkled."

The little boy suddenly took sick about Thursday. The doctor stood at his bed and the little boy looked up and said, "Doctor, I want to be well by Sunday because last Sunday we studied the outer court, next Sunday I want to go beyond the veil and see the Mercy Seat. They tell me that is where God is. So please get me well by Sunday."

It is said that the good doctor put his hand on the little boy's head and said, "Son, unless I miss my guess, next Sunday you are going to see beyond the veil; you are going to see God on His Throne."

After a few hours the sun sank behind the hills. The doctor said to his mother and father, "On next Lord's day he is going to see beyond the veil."

Let me tell you, my friends, this scene out of the Bible teaches that out of the suffering blood and tears of the Son of God upon the cross, comes the joy of Heaven, the joys of an abundant entrance into the presence of God.

Then comes victory

There is a third wonderful lesson taught in this which is the fact that out of defeat comes victory. Oh what

The Defender

a scene of defeat on Calvary, seemingly. The disciples said, "Our leader is dead."

The women stood about and said, "They have killed the one who wrought miracles, raised the dead, opened the eyes of the blind, made the lame to walk, made the dumb to speak and the deaf to hear."

I can see them as they turn from that lonely hill and go back to their homes. They go back mumbling and saying, "He was defeated." If there were a newspaper, it would have been headlined, "Jesus Defeated." If there were radio or television, the news commentator would have said, "Jesus Defeated." Three days later, thank God, He arose.

This recalls to my mind one of the greatest things that happened in the history of England. All of England hoped that Wellington would win over Napoleon.

Back in those days the signals were given by semaphore. They waved flags. At the battle on the sea, the signals were given by the flags and standing upon Westminster Chapel, the sexton and caretaker of the church read the signals. The people anxiously waited below to hear who had won.

Finally the message began to come. It spelled out the words *Wellington Defeated*. About that time a wind rolled a heavy fog between the battle at sea and the man flashed the message of gloom across the city of London — "Wellington Defeated."

People wept; people prayed; people sobbed; their hearts were broken. In a few hours there came another wind and blew the fog away, and the messages began again and added one word — "Wellington defeated Napoleon."

My friend, if I look on the cross and see Jesus there and if my view ends at Calvary, I see Jesus defeated; but when I look at the empty tomb and know God raised Him from the dead, set Him at His own right hand, from which He is coming again to rule the world in power and righteousness, thank God, I can say that Jesus defeated the devil. He defeated him for your sins and mine. *Out of defeat comes victory.*

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The beauty of faith is that it extends beyond the realm of the five senses

HE IS STILL HERE

BY MANFORD EVANS

"When he (Christ) had heard therefore that he (Lazarus) was sick, he abode two days still in the same place where he was. ... Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died." — John 11:6,21.

WE ALL ARE familiar with the saying, "While there is life there is hope." Our senses tell us that. It's the human, the natural. But the beauty of *faith* is that it extends beyond the realm of the five senses — it reaches up and takes hold of God and His unailing promises.

If we have never reached up in faith to lay hold of a promise of God and held on to it in spite of unfavorable circumstances; yea, of every apparent contradiction of the five senses, then, beloved, we know very little about the operation of faith.

Like Martha, we see only death and decay all about us. Oh, yes, we pray, we beg; but when the Lord doesn't come with the answer right at the moment, we yield to the tempter's insinuation: "Silly of you to think the Lord would answer!"

The devil has invaded a lot of Christian territory by insinuating against God and the promises of God. That explains why so many professing Christians live, move and have their being almost wholly apart from the marvelous provisions God has made for them in Christ for their peace, for their victory, for their triumph in every avenue of their daily lives. They limit God to the natural things that surround them, as did the children of Israel. They fail to consider that the Lord is not limited in His supernatural workings except by unbelief. Israel "could not enter in because of unbelief." That's something to think about when the devil comes around to tempt us to disbelieve God; to doubt that God

will perform His promises in us and for us — not because we are worthy of even the least of His favors, but because His throne is back of His Word. "I watch over my word to perform it."

Same Experience

Were you ever sick? Then perhaps you've had the same experience so many others have had.

Friends have called, much after the fashion of Job's three comfortless comforters — Christian friends, mind you — who perhaps manifested not even the semblance of faith towards God to be of help to you. Instead they were sure you had the same disease some of their own relatives had when they "up and died." They elaborated on the symptoms, and the symptoms were identical with yours!

Whatever faith you had in "the prayer of faith" for the sick was dissipated by the time they turned at the door with this closing remark: "I almost forgot to tell you about Aunt Arabella. I remember how she looked just before she passed away. She looked exactly like you do now!"

What a pity! What's wrong with that kind of professing Christians?

Simply that they walk and talk as Paul on one occasion indicated: "as men." That is, as carnally-minded, rather than as spiritually-minded, consecrated, all-out-for-God men and women who embrace God's changeless promises, pray God's power down as did the prophets of old, and exercise themselves in the priceless privilege of being "doers of the word" and not just camp followers or spiritual hitchhikers — "hearers of the word only."

And is it not true that often we complain when we ought to be thank-

ful? God's plans are always better than our own.

Had Jesus hurried to Lazarus when first apprised of his sickness, He would have healed him. Martha knew that. Her faith in the Lord reached that far. But when her brother died, so did her faith in her Lord to do anything more about it.

To her, that was the end of the matter. And yet the Lord's apparent unconcern about the seriousness of the situation only contributed to a greater manifestation of His supernatural power. Instead of raising Lazarus from a sick bed He raised him from a tomb! And this same miracle-working Christ is still the believer's Christ! And He is still here — "Christ in you, the hope of glory!"

Body of Christ

"He that is in you is greater than he that is in the world." Our Father-God has put all things under the feet of His Son for the benefit of the Church — the body of Christ — "the church of the first-born, which are inscribed (or written) in heaven."

Like Nicodemus the senses inquire, "How can these things be?" But faith says: "I know him whom I have believed." The language of the senses, judging by "things which are seen," utters the complaint: "If thou hadst been here!" The language of faith, judging by things which are not seen, declares confidently: "I believe, because the Lord said, 'Lo, I am with you alway.' I believe because the Lord is still in the midst of His people."

The Lord who by the Word made worlds out of nothing, and who upholds all things by the Word of His power, is the same Lord who said, "I am with you alway." Not only that He was with us ten or 40 years ago. Not only that He saved us back there. Not only that He has delivered us time and again. Not only that He was real and precious to us when we were accepted in Him by the Father — received into the family of God. No! No! No! Thank God that is not all! Thank God, He is with us all the time!

"If thou hadst been here." He is here! What if the devil has his "if" — or "keep off the grass" signs — posted around God's acreage to scare God's people, Christ is still "greater than all," and He is still *here!* He is still *with* us. He is still *in* us. He is still for us. "Lo, I am with you alway, even to the end of the age."

The Scripture says nothing shall separate us from His love. Nothing? That's right: Not even tribulation! Nor distress, nor persecution, nor famine, nor nakedness, nor peril, nor sword.

These are serious days: time is running out. If war should suddenly envelop our beloved land, some of us may be "accounted as sheep for the slaughter." What then? Even then we would still be conquerors through Him that loves us. "For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

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EVERYMAN'S PROBLEM

Federal Aid -- Enemy Of Education

by Harry T. Everingham

ARE OUR PUBLIC schools in such shape that the only solution is federal aid?

Is there a classroom shortage?

Is there a teacher shortage?

Have teachers' salaries lagged seriously behind?

Has public spending on schools been niggardly?

Who stands to benefit by federal aid to education?

Who is responsible for it?

For an answer to these questions, let us consider the facts recently uncovered by the Citizens Public Expenditures Survey.

A classroom shortage? No, since the end of World War II we, the people, have built in all states, without federal handouts, 680,000 classrooms. These are more than half of all in use today.

A teacher shortage? Hardly -- there are 47.6 per cent more teachers now than in the 1949-50 period. The number of pupils also increased, but to a lesser degree -- 44.9 per cent.

Have teachers' salaries lagged? In the last 11 years teachers' salaries have increased by 99.8 per cent -- almost doubled -- while the cost of living has increased only 23.6 per cent, according to U. S. Consumer Price Index.

Has public spending on schools been niggardly? It doesn't look so. Such spending increased from \$5.8 billion in 1949-50 to \$15.5 billion in 1959-60. This is a jump of 167.9 per cent. In 1949 we spent \$260.37 per pupil -- now we spend \$481.48.

Who would stand to gain by federal aid to teachers' salaries? The National Education Association has been the strongest lobby in Washington for federal aid for schools. They know that with federal aid will come federal controls, placing them, as the main pressure group, in the driver's seat.

Why do they want more power? The hierarchy of the N.E.A. has gone on record as favoring socialism. Their executive head, Willard E. Givens, who retired January 1, 1952, is quoted in their published Proceedings of the 72nd Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. (June 30, 1934) as saying:

"... A dying laissez-faire (Free Enterprise) must be completely destroyed and all of us, including the 'owners,' must be subjected to a large degree of social control ... the credit agencies, the basic industries and utilities cannot be centrally planned and operated under private ownership ... Hence (we) will support President Roosevelt in taking these over and operating them at full capacity as a unified national system in the interest of all the people."

Along with federal aid to schools comes federal dictation of our children's education under the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Herbert Philbrick (former agent for the FBI who spent nine years in the Communist Party) says that the Department of Health, Education and Welfare employs fully one-third of the top echelon of Communist conspirators in this country.

No state is in great need of federal aid. In fact, our federal debt is already many times as high as the debts of all 50 states combined. So why should we allow federal aid to schools and place our children's education under the control of the most extreme radicals in our government?

Who will be responsible for federal aid to schools? You will -- if you don't do something about it now. Call your friends and neighbors and ask them to call others to write Congress at once to block the passage of the bill for federal aid for teachers' salaries. Even the good teachers who know these facts will thank you for it!

*Christ's whole life was an attempt to show
the world that no man lives to himself*

Void — If Detached

BY DR. S. WATERS MCGILL

"VOID — IF DETACHED" — these words appeared on a railroad ticket that I held in my hand. How significant these words are, I thought, for they apply to just about everything in this world of ours.

If you were to take everything that is void (not good) if detached and throw it into a pile, you would dwarf a pyramid in size and the Washington Monument in height. For into that pile you would have to throw all telephones, sweepers, washing machines, refrigerators and radios. Detach them from the socket, the source of power — at least the connection with that source — and they are useless. It isn't any wonder really that we call all these things appliances. To be useful they must be applied.

Also into the pile you would have to cast all the parts of your automobile: fenders, bumpers, carburetors, lights, wheels and distributors. Few if any of these things would be worth having without the others. Into the pile you would also have to place glasses, knives, cameras, mirrors and drinking cups. For unless they are attached to some hand, socket or cord, they are useless.

Void — if detached is applicable to everything that the hand of man has made.

We may go further and say that this simple phrase describes man himself. Christ's whole life was one long attempt to show the world that no man liveth unto himself. "I am the vine, ye are the branches" means attachment, not detachment. So does "I am the good shepherd." So does "I am the door." So does "Ye are the

light of the world" and "Let your light shine." You would be void, says Christ, if detached.

Everything in this world, made either by the hand of God or the hand of men, takes its value from its relationship to some thing or some one. No one thing by itself, even if it be what we call a perfect soul, has the slightest significance except it find its proper attachment.

Important Truth

So important did Jesus consider this truth, and so jealous was He for man's proper perception of it, that he adds these harsh words which we have not yet quite fully believed: "Without me ye can do nothing."

He was not minimizing man's eternal striving. And many of the things for which humankind puts forth its greatest energy were not to be condemned. If only these children of God would get wise and relate their tasks, their desires, interests, abilities and their possessions — all of them — to the ultimate source of their power and meaning.

Some of us are beginning to learn that money, gobs of it; or education, degrees of it; or security, mountains of it — are sometimes the most barren things in the world if they are detached from a motive or purpose of usefulness.

Do we see that we ourselves run that same danger? Here we are, with a life on our hands, a whole rich human life in our hands with its infinite possibilities, and we keep frittering it away, running after things which, if we do secure them, can do very little

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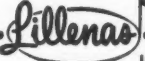
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"The worldly hope men set their hearts upon," mused Omar Khayyam, looking queerly at his perspiring fellows rushing about prodigiously in earnest. What is it even if it does come true? Like snow falling on the hot face of the desert.

That's how futile life can be, whether it be a pagan philosopher or a Christian teacher who interprets it. Only one says there is nothing to be done about it. The other says, "I am the vine, ye are the branches." "Abide in me and ye shall bear fruit" and "Apart from me ye can do nothing."

Family Ties

Now, let us make this a bit more specific. We are "void — if detached" from family ties.

It is almost impossible to overestimate the importance of this. Where would you and I be without them? Those who guided our faltering steps in infancy, those who directed the first products of our minds into fruitful channels, those whose love not only sheltered us against harshness of the world but developed in us the will to master it.

It is a perfectly insipid truism to say that man is the most dependent of all creatures. But when you place that fact over the unquenchable thirst for independence, you have a strange paradox on your hands. You, a self-made man? Never.

Thomas Hovenden put the story on canvas far better than we can put it in words. It is an old-fashioned home. A fine-looking young man, hat in hand, is saying "Good-bye" to the family. He is going out into the world of his dreams, which he hopes and intends to conquer.

The father, of course, is concealing his feelings by carrying the carpetbag out to the waiting carriage. Grandmother, sitting at the table, seems to be dreaming of days gone by. The older sister stands thoughtfully by the mantel, and the younger one sits by the door, looking as if she were about to lose out of her life all that was really worth while.

But the center of the picture is the parting of the mother and son — her hands upon his shoulders and her

eyes looking straight into his. She stands there erect in her composure, and you can almost hear the words of motherly advice being added to the blessings she is giving him. It is a beautiful picture.

The title of the picture is, "Breaking Home Ties." But these ties are not being broken. For wherever the young man might go, home ties would hold him fast.

Friendships

We are "void — if detached" from our friends. We may boast that it does not really matter whether we have friends or not. We can get by alone, we say. What other people think of us doesn't matter.

That, of course, is all bluff and nonsense. Our very life belies our words when we say such a foolish thing. For we exist and thrive on friendship. There is not an incident in one's life which is not connected with friends. Some of us have jobs because of them.

How very dependent we are upon our friends. The cynic may say that our interest in our friends is based on what we can get out of them. But even in such cases our lives are influenced and we realize that we are "void — if detached."

We become fruitful when we are nourished by parents, loved ones and friends. Friendship always carries with it certain fertilizing forces.

Biographers are unanimous in relating how each period in the hero's life was ushered in by a new friend. When Schiller met Goethe every talent was awakened; Milton stands in the company of Cromwell; Dr. Johnson sits with his immortal group around a table in a London inn; David had his Jonathan; Tennyson his Hallam; Longfellow his Emerson. Friendship glorifies everything it touches in the lives of the obscure as well as the great.

For the most part the soul dwells in a castle locked and barred against outsiders. No man can keep "open house" for every passer-by, but friendship is the "open sesame," drawing every bolt and bar yielding power and spirit and courage and love. Every tree goes down before the storm;

The Defender

every ship with no anchor amidst the rocks is lost before the gale — but a human life, fastened in friendship and attached to love will never wither and be "void."

Citizenship

Then, too, there is the connection we must have with our country. Without it, who can say how void our lot would be. It isn't very often that we place much value on citizenship. When polls beckon, we give it a fleeting thought. And there may be times when we deprive ourselves of our rights by not voting. Of what use then can we be to ourselves, to our community or our country?

Dwight L. Moody once asked a man how he was going to vote. The reply was, "I don't vote. My citizenship is in heaven." Whereupon Mr. Moody said, "Better bring it down for a few days because it is going to be needed." We are "void — if detached."

It is obvious that when our rights are enjoyed, we appreciate the value of citizenship; when responsibilities are to be borne, we at times depreciate that.

The citizen is no doubt the recipient of services from his fellow citizens, enjoying benefits which the state confers upon him, heir of the social inheritance, protected by law, sitting in security under "his own vine and fig tree," "none daring to make him afraid." But the greater the benefit conferred upon him, the more extensive becomes his responsibilities. His security is granted to him, not that he may enjoy it in isolation but that he may have opportunity to serve his community. His rights are nothing without his duties. At no point do his rights relieve him of his responsibilities, they create them at every turn.

The ideal social system is sometimes represented as though it would automatically relieve him of his responsibilities. The citizen has only to put his ballot in the ballot box, as he would a penny in the slot, and the government will do the rest.

We sometimes think that this is just the system that would suit us. But in reality we could not endure it for a day. It would deprive us of

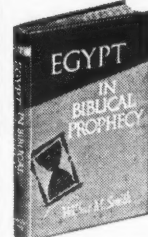


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our responsibility, and that is a thing a freeman will never surrender, for freedom does not mean to be detached from social responsibility. That simply is isolation and death.

The most pathetic story in modern prose is "The Man Without a Country." The most dramatic story in modern history is the effort of a people without a country to win one. What would it mean to any one of us to be banished from the United States of America? We would be void — if detached.

Our Lives and Christ

The most significant application of this truth concerns our lives and Christ. We are void — if detached from Him. He is the one who said: "Without me, you can do nothing." Our Lord Jesus Christ never said anything more sobering as He looked into the face of mankind.

Even those who take life seriously, who have some idea of what it is for and try to make worthier use of it, at times accomplish but little, and they are completely dismayed. We see but we cannot reach. We stretch out our hands but come short. We hope, we strive, we pray; yet do what we will a whole brood of evils keeps storming our hearts. The things we hate to do disappear. The things we loathe won't yield, and though occasionally we breathe the clean air of the heights, a moment later we wake up in the stuffy plain, the same bedraggled and dusty figures we were.

"Yes," says Jesus, "I have been watching you, and you can't do anything without Me. All your individual attempts are like fading branches torn from the vine, withered, col-

lected and burned." This judgment of His about our stupidity, foolishness and helplessness is distressing and depressing. But there is a hopeful sign as well. It is this, "He that abideth in me beareth much fruit."

A Metaphor

It has been said, and wisely, that it is dangerous to base your theology on a metaphor. But this one is descriptive of Christ's own life. He looks at us and says, "You can do nothing. Detached as you are, you are no good. But with Me attached and abiding in your life you can be abundantly fruitful. Withered branches you may be today, but tomorrow I shall cover you with power and glory." How? Well, here is His answer, and very heartening it is. Simply by clinging to the vine. The vine does the rest. The vine even provides the strength to cling. So, continues Jesus, "If you will attach yourselves to me, live with me, look to me and learn of me — I will make your lives fruitful." It is as simple as that and we should believe it.

The brave man simply by being brave gives us courage. A wise man can steady us in our uncertainty almost without saying a word. And Christ — simply by being Christ can make us bear fruit. The big question is — Are we attached? Are we abiding in Him? Do we really pray? Do we really read His word? Is His will determining our plans? It is important to be attached. And the attachment must be continuous. We must abide. One of the prayers of the Apostle Paul included this: "That we may be rooted and grounded in the love and power of Christ." He knew that we would be void — if detached.

Excellency of Christ

He is a path, if any be misled;
He is a robe, if any naked be;
If any chance to hunger, He is bread;
If any be a bondman, He is free;
If any be but weak, how strong is He!
To dead men life He is, to sick men health;
To blind men sight, and to the needy wealth;
A pleasure without loss, a treasure without stealth.

— Giles Fletcher

Just what is cancer?

The Mystery of Growth

NO ONE KNOWS EXACTLY what a living cell is, or what is life itself! All we do know is that *life is growth*! Cancer, too, is growth. Cancer therefore is a part of life!

From the instant sperm and ovum meet, the fertilized egg cell grows. What makes one egg cell grow in nine months into a human being, another grow in three weeks into a chicken ... another into a frog and still another into a horse, all having one common characteristic ... a backbone or spine? Just what is it that makes the hand of a baby grow and continue to grow into the hand of a man and then stop growing? There is the mystery of the phenomenon we call growth.

When one cuts a finger deeply, the cells in the skin and those in the flesh begin to divide. They make more cells, and these cells fill the cut and bridge the gap. Then they stop dividing. Why did they start to divide? Repair growth too, is a mystery.

Cancer is a growth. Cancer is related to growth, to destruction and repair. A cancer cell is not an outsider invading inwardly, not a miniature outside monster devouring its victim slowly and insidiously, without reason or cause.

It is believed by some physicians that cancer cells are offspring from normal cells — that they are, in a sense, our own children gone wrong. Like children, they may resemble their parents, or be quite different. Some keep the form and chemical

properties of the parent cells, and even retain the ability to perform the same acts. Some cancers of the thyroid glands manufacture thyroid hormone that is indistinguishable from that made by normal thyroid cells. Others bear little or no resemblance to the parent cells, spending their time and effort only in growth. The chief difference between a normal cell and a cancer cell is this, the cancer cell possesses unusual properties and the power of growth and uses them.

The cancer cell is therefore not desirable, nor is its wild growth useful to the body. It is not controlled by the same hormones which control normal cell growth, nor under the same functional control. They are like rebellious children who grow too big, too fast, and too wild to control. They create other children in their own image, and all become a menace to body society.

Recognize Metastasis

Cancer cells have the power and strength to move, and like amoebas, they move freely because they are not attached to surrounding cells. This makes it possible for cancer to spread. In cancer of the cervix, vaginal secretions are loaded with cancer cells cast off from the tumor, and it is upon this behavior the Papanicolaou test for cancer of the cervix is based.

We know cancer cells have ability to move, and do move; that they do not adhere to other cells but are shed externally and internally into the

lymph and blood vessels that course through the entire body. We recognize *metastasis*, or cancer spread to other parts by these migrating cells which are eventually trapped and held in lymph nodes in the liver, the lungs, the brain, etc. Like seeds carried by a stream they wash up on fertile soil in other places, to take root and grow.

Knowing that cancer cells have the ability to migrate to other parts, it is no surprise that most cancers, not encapsulated, (carcinoma being the worst to migrate) do metastasize. The question is not why, but when, does this occur? Is it early in the growth of the tumor or after it becomes large enough to be felt and cause troublesome symptoms?

No One Knows

Some cancer cells resemble the parents less, and are less potent. These cells are like mentally retarded children ... a burden to parents and society but too feeble to do much harm. No one knows what elements change a normal cell into a cancer cell ... if there is a change. Heredity in certain types is a predisposing factor, but many agents may obviously play a part in the production of cancer. But no single one or group seems to be responsible for the large numbers of carcinomas in various organs, such as the female uterus, the male prostate, the female breast, the sigmoid colon and lungs of both sexes, etc. It is strange that by the process we call *fission* a living cell can rend itself, originating two new cells, each in its parent's image!

Since we know so little about the causes of cancer we can do but little to cure it. We know it begins with a single cell, which divides into two cells. These daughter cells again divide into four. The four grand-daughter cells into eight great-grand-daughters and so on. Assuming that this constant rate of cell division continues and each cell divides once in twenty-four hours, and that it takes one million cancer cells in one lump large enough to give trouble, how many cell divisions and how much time would it take for the first cancer cell to make a tumor large enough



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to be detected? It is believed that by the end of the first month after a cancer cell originates, enough cells would be amassed to make a tumor the size of a pinhead. At the end of the second month 100 per cent increase in the mass would be observed. By the end of the third month there would be 1,000 per cent increase. The fourth month marks an increase of 10,000 per cent and so on.

During the first twenty-four months it increases in size, quietly and usually minus other symptoms. Remember migration is occurring too, a spreading of cancer cells shed from the tumor ... metastasis via the lymphatics and blood stream we know does take place, but not how soon or how late in the course of growth. By the end of four years it has doubled its size 48 times by multiple division and has become immense, excreting its toxins into the blood stream and continually invading other areas.

Obviously the growth of cancer is not constant during its advance into a larger mass. No living thing grows constantly, be it plant or animal, without some pause, perhaps a seasonal rest, but when food and water and environmental conditions are good a rapid growth is observed.

Growth Difference

Some cancer cells may fall into sterile soil and be slow to grow. Some perhaps do not grow at all, or at most only the first ten divisions in perhaps twenty years. It is not time only that counts here, but the fact that so many absolute cell divisions must occur before the tumor becomes inflamed and large enough to detect.

We must accept the possibility of having cancer ourselves just as we accept the possibility of being struck by lightning. Remember it cannot be alien to any human being if it develops from one's own flesh and blood. It is noncontagious, noninfectious, noncommunicable and even defies transplantation to another body, refusing to take root and grow in anyone else except possibly an identical twin.

Each and every individual with cancer possesses his very own cancer, and it is peculiar to himself only. As no two people are the same, no two

cancers are the same. The differences are definite, but all cancers constantly liberate toxins into the victim, and reduce him to a shadow of his former self, his stomach revolting against any nutrition toward the terminal stage of the disease.

Many cancers can be lived with. Often the victim dies from another cause if the toxins are oxidized by a catalyzing agent and rendered harmless by a chemical which reduces them to the least common denominator and eliminates them from the body through the skin, lungs, urine, and intestines. There are chemicals, frowned on by many who call themselves expert in all tumor diseases, and by those who are not expert, but have power to destroy, harmless but efficient types of chemotherapy, the knowledge of which rightfully belongs to the public.

An interesting article, which appeared in the July, 1960 DEFENDER, is an appraisal of Mr. Maurice Natenberg's illuminating book, "The Cancer Blackout."

THROUGH THE PAST two centuries, a concerted resistance toward independent medical research has developed. The closely knit organization of the medical fraternity has sought control of research and its results, to the exclusion of independent thinking. Practically every remedy so discovered has been maligned, and its discoverer discredited, slandered, and ruined, in spite of pleas for an honest and unbiased test of his claims.

Mr. Natenberg describes the increased tempo of the opposition. He lists all independently developed cancer treatments; the theories of the researchers; the success of the medicines; and the systematic persecution of each by those having power to ruin. He reveals the inhumanity, the greed, and the jealousy which dominate their actions to the exclusion of sympathy for the cancer sufferers who long for even a faint glimmer of hope in the awful night of despair...

Another article, appearing in the October, 1960 DEFENDER, designated "A Matter of Life or Death," is an appraisal of a book by that name, written by Herbert Bailey in defense

of an independent cancer remedy called *Krebiozen*. This treatment had been successfully used by such eminent physicians as Dr. Andrew C. Ivy, Vice President, and head of the medical college of Illinois State University, and Dr. John Pick, research scientist of Chicago, whose wife was given new life through *Krebiozen*.

However, regardless of the tremendous power and influence of Dr. Ivy, his high intellectual ability, and his personal integrity, the moment he refused to bow to the medical dictators, the pressures were applied. An ultimatum, "Denounce *Krebiozen* or be destroyed," was rendered, and by every underhanded method was carried out. Dr. Ivy, who has never hesitated to fight for what he believes is right, was dismissed from his high position in the University and demoted to a professorship in the medical college of which he had been head. Publication of his articles and books was prevented, and his personal reputation besmirched. In fact, it is an almost unbelievable record of intrigue, injustice, and dishonesty, and of dictator-like pressures against Dr. Ivy and *Krebiozen*.

But it is still the intention of Dr. Ivy to complete every test scientifically, with proper time elapse to prove his belief in the efficacy of *Krebiozen* as a cancer remedy. He has now offered the American Cancer Society the challenge of running a blind double test on *Krebiozen*.

Such a test means that a number of physicians administer the remedy and another substance to certain patients without knowing the ones which receive either substance. At the end of the test the condition of each patient is checked before the doctor is informed as to which received *Krebiozen*. Dr. Ivy must be very sure of *Krebiozen*!

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THIS IS THE HOUR

BY A. D. HURT, D.D.

A MIGHTY VOICE from the banks of Jordan shook the quietude of the surrounding region. This voice proclaimed: "The Kingdom of heaven is at hand." What startling news this was to the populace as they pondered the true import of the message.

Was it possible that the One foretold by the prophets had arrived? Or was soon to make His appearance? The time was pregnant with expectancy that something unusual was about to happen. Consequently, the resounding voice from the wilderness was enthusiastically heard throughout Judea and all the regions beyond Jordan.

The import of this voice upon the thinking of the people was tremendous. Its influence can be attributed only to the fact that the messenger and the message were from God.

Repentance was necessary for the remission of sins, cried the preacher. You must prepare a straight path for the Lord . . . Fruits worthy of repentance must be revealed in the lives of God's people . . . The time has come when evil must be uprooted from its very source in the human heart . . . No excuse will be accepted from any one . . . None has a rightful claim of being Abraham's children except by new birth.

And the prophet climaxed his teaching with the words: The One Who is coming shall baptize with the Holy Ghost and with fire . . . He will thoroughly purge His floor . . . will gather the wheat into the garner, and burn the chaff with unquenchable fire. (Luke 3.)

After preaching this message of repentance and the Kingdom of Heav-

en for a few months, suddenly the Messiah, Jesus the Son of God, appeared on the banks of the river Jordan, and requested John to baptize Him. When the prophet saw Him, he introduced Him to the people with these words: "Behold the Lamb of God."

The Lamb of God

After a short period of seclusion and temptation in the wilderness, Jesus returned into Galilee and began His ministry by preaching the same message — repent, for the Kingdom of God is at hand.

What strange words were these: "The Lamb of God", "prepare a way for the Lord", "laying the ax to the root of the trees", "baptized with the Holy Ghost and fire." How can we reconcile them with the coming Messiah?

Do not our teachers say that when the King of Israel appears He will restore ancient Israel's national splendor? Are we not to be politically the head and not the tail? This is, greater than all other kingdoms? These and kindred questions demanded an answer.

The prophets had foretold in glowing terms the glories of the coming Kingdom. They said streams would flow in the deserts, peace would be extended like a river, mountains would be brought down and valleys lifted up, lions and lambs would lie down together. The Son of Righteousness would arise with healing in His wings. "I will gather all nations and tongues and they shall come and see My glory."

These and countless other sayings

of the prophets prophesied of the days when the King of Israel, David's Son, would reign and rule in righteousness.

The message of all the prophets was the same. First Moses, then Samuel, and all that followed them, foretold the days of the Messiah. (Acts 3:22, 24.) These days began with the advent of Christ into the world and very especially on the day of Pentecost.

The Mission of Christ

In the fulness of time Christ was born of a woman (Galatians 4:4), that is, of a virgin, as the prophets had foretold. (Matthew 1:23.) The time had come for God to perform His "strange act," to do a "new thing in the earth." It was a work of first magnitude.

God could find no man worthy to do the job. It was His purpose from before the foundation of the world. It was nothing less than the redemption of mankind — the reconciliation of God and man. There was no man worthy for such a task so God must undertake it Himself.

So, in the fulfillment of His will God, in the Person of His Son, accomplished the greatest work that ever engaged His infinite wisdom and omnipotence. The supernaturalism of the work to be done was foretold by the prophecies and miracles surrounding the annunciation — the message and song of the angelic choir that first Christmas Eve and the revelation to the Wise Men by the guiding Star.

That the King promised through the centuries had come was attested by these numerous events and by the entire ministry and life of Jesus. It was His own testimony that He had come to do His Father's will.

The Ensuing Struggle

Christ's work was the destruction of Satan's kingdom and the establishing of the Kingdom of God on earth. This involved a struggle unto death. In fact, Jesus gave His life in order to conquer death and destroy Satan who had the power of death.

Isaiah, looking down the centuries, saw this battle in which Jesus was engaged. The prophet said Jesus

The Defender

looked as though He had been treading the wine press. His clothes were dyed red with His own blood. He was clothed with zeal and with vengeance, nor would He cease in the conflict until He had succeeded in establishing righteousness in the earth.

Christ never gave up in the fray. He fought and conquered and fought and conquered again! He cast out demons, cast Satan out and spoiled his armor.

He healed the sick, raised the dead, forgave sins and tore down prison walls. He set the captives free, bound up broken hearts, gave joy for sadness, beauty for ashes, and offered freedom to all who would accept it.

Jesus never quit the war until He looked up from the Cross into His Father's face and cried out, "It is finished." What was finished? Why, the work He came to do — the destruction of Satanic authority and dominion over the believer and the establishment of the everlasting Kingdom of God on earth.

That Jesus failed is unthinkable. That He gave up another task because of the people's rejection is insulting to God's omnipotence to the victories He won.

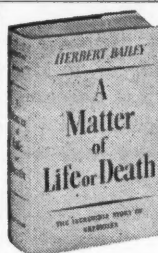
Jesus never had the faintest idea of reviving ancient Israel's nationalism. No mention is made of such a purpose. He came to save mankind from its sins, not to establish a worldly kingdom. He was the Lamb of God, slain from before the foundation of the world.

John had introduced Him as the Lamb of God. His "hour" was the hour of death for which He said He had come. He came to die. None could turn Him aside from fulfilling the role of the Lamb of God.

The Cross was the way to the Throne. He said, "I am come to seek and to save that which is lost." There was no other way to establish the Kingdom of God, for in order to be everlasting, it must be a righteous Kingdom, and men must be made righteous and holy to become citizens of that Kingdom.

Men had to be born again to become righteous. The death of Christ was essential to the birth of a new race that would inherit the Kingdom of God.

March 1961



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by Herbert Bailey
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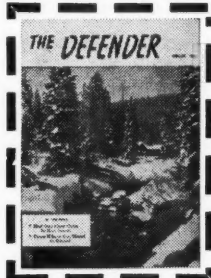
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From The Cross To The Throne

It borders on blasphemy to say that the Cross was secondary in the mind and purpose of God. Let no one accuse Jesus of deciding on the Cross as a means of saving men from sin, after He had been rejected as King, as if He preferred to be their King rather than their Saviour!

In Revelation five we behold the "Lamb" approaching and seated upon the throne, receiving the sevenfold praise that belongs to God alone. He is now free to open the seven sealed book of His redemption plan. Free, because the Lamb of God has been slain, resurrected and ascended to the everlasting throne of God.

He is the "Lion of Judah" because He was formerly the Lamb. Lamb first and Lion afterwards. That was God's plan and provision! There was no other.

On The Throne

Because of His unequalled condescension (Philippians 2) He has been exalted and given a name above every name, a name before which every knee shall bow. Stephen saw the glorified Lord standing at the right hand of God, that is, in the place of authority.

Jesus said all power in Heaven and earth had been given unto Him. This was because He had died and was resurrected and exalted to the highest throne of the universe.

Peter, on the day of Pentecost, said that God hath made this same Jesus both Lord and Christ (Acts 2:36); that Christ was then upon the throne and would remain there until all His enemies were made His footstool. (Acts 2:35.)

That Christ had ascended from Mount Olivet to sit upon the throne of David was a blessed reality, and Peter says this was the blessed revelation that God had shown to David centuries before. (Acts 2:30.)

It had come to pass as God had sworn to David that He (God), in the fruit of David's body (the man Christ Jesus) would sit upon David's throne. (Psalm 132:11.) As final and conclusive proof that Jesus had accomplished all necessary and preliminary work to Kingship in the King-

dom of God, He sent the Holy Spirit to bless and guide His people.

Peter said on the day of Pentecost, "God hath shed forth this, which ye, now see and hear," in fulfillment of the promise made to the fathers. "The promise is unto you and your children and as many as the Lord our God shall call."

This Is The Hour

This is the hour of Christ's reign. He must reign until every enemy is made His footstool. Though the heathen rage and refuse His rule, yet God hath set His Son upon His holy hill in Zion. (Psalm 2.)

In the end of these days the King will return and reward those who have been faithful to Him and destroy every vestige of Satanic pollution from the earth.

Now He reigns in His kingdom, in the lives of His saints, over the power of the enemy. Satan is conquered and cast out as far as God and His people are concerned.

The King is extending His kingdom into all the earth by the power of the Holy Spirit. He enlists every child of God in this great work. He equips His people with His own power and life so they can be more than conquerors.

He has promised them power over all the power of the enemy. He gives them the privilege to reign with Him, to cast out Satan and bind and release forces good and bad as they affect the growth of His Kingdom.

Christ laid the foundation of His work thoroughly, without the faintest possibility of failure. Jesus Himself is the chief cornerstone of His building. The apostles completed the foundation of this glorious, eternal structure.

Every saint of God fits into this rising, growing, expanding Temple of God. It will fill all the earth with its glory as the King from His exalted position directs the work until all is done. Then, and not until then, will He relinquish His right to rule.

After every enemy is destroyed, the last of which is death, He will deliver the Kingdom to God that He may be all and in all through all eternity, while the blessings of the Eternal City become the heritage of the redeemed.

DEFENDER BOOKSHELF

Prescription for Living

THANK GOD FOR MY HEART ATTACK

By Charles Yale Harrison. (Henry Holt and Company, cloth binding, 144 pages, price \$2.95)

What do you think you could learn from a heart attack, provided you lived long enough to learn anything?

Charles Yale Harrison, author of this treatise, learned so many vital facts that he decided to pass them on to others who at some time might be facing the same predicament. In this fascinating true story of his experience he relates the gradual return, not only to health, but to a zest for living he had never known before.

Taking a walk for the first time after his long illness, he found a renewed sense of the wonder of life. How beautiful everything was — how touched by an unspoiled quality he had never seen — clear and vivid and lovely!

He says, "My heart attack made it possible for me to lie back for two months, and think through the dilemma of our times and to come to a conclusion . . . that we all must die and none of us has the right to hasten a single human being along the road to inevitable death . . . it finally gave me the serenity out of which to search for and find a personal basis for optimism. It helped me realize that life must not be lived in a state of constant tension . . . it should be lived with completeness and grace."

He goes on to say that he gained a sense of tolerance toward people, ideas, and movements, a greater benevolence, and learned not only how to live with a heart attack, but how to extract the maximum out of living to a degree he had never thought possible. Thus he came to the place where he could say from the depths

of his soul, "Thank God for my heart attack!"

While the book is written from a secular viewpoint, Mr. Harrison came to discern many vital, spiritual truths. The clear, factual statements of his feeling, prior to, and during the terrible seizure, the slow and painful recovery, are all a contribution of value to any reader. For coronary thrombosis is the Number One killer of today, striking the unsuspecting victim without warning. The more knowledge one has of the disease the better prepared he is to combat it.

Since Mr. Harrison was already the author of several books, indeed was almost finishing one the day he was stricken, he has given this factual volume the interest of a fictional story which holds the reader's attention from the first word to the last. Of that last word he says, "I promised myself that the last word must be EVA," the name of his wife who stayed by his side during the ordeal.

The eight-week period of recovery served him well, for at first there could be no visitors, no mail, no reading . . . the only activity was thinking. All of life passed in slow review — all the mistakes, the petty quarrels, the pointless striving for wrong goals, the likes and dislikes. It was a time of stock-taking, usually impossible in our high pressure existence — a frank facing of all the implications of life. It led to a deeper understanding, sympathy, and pity of others.

The author worked out a code of living. The shortness of life is so evident why should it be wasted in futile striving? He recalled the question of Jesus, "For what is a man profited if he gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" and the answer revealed in the history of dictators—Alexander, Caesar, Napoleon,



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Hitler, Mussolini! He says, "Now I have time for work and time for a leisurely dinner . . . time is no longer a problem for me, I have slowed up, and yet my life seems fuller . . . I have begun to live at a rate I should have started years ago. And I like it!"

Coronary thrombosis is not a disease in the sense that tuberculosis, polio, and cancer are diseases. It is not of germ or virus origin, but is caused by living, most often striking those who live intensely and take their work most seriously. It is a dramatic signal that one must begin to find another tempo, an indication that one has been given a heaven-sent second chance. The secret of how to survive a heart attack is the secret of all good living — to live rationally but well, without overexertion. To have many interests yet maintain a serene outlook. "In short," he says, "to be so in love with life that nothing could ever induce you to squander it."

Some information about other forms of heart ailment is given. Rheumatic fever, arteriosclerosis, high blood pressure, and coronary artery disease are discussed, along with some common fallacies. Cardio-vascular disease causes one out of every three deaths in the United States, and is the leading cause of death among children from five to fifteen. The cause is still unknown.

Mr. Harrison concludes with this advice — since all must die and the day of death is unknown, the thing to do is to live each day as though we expect to die tomorrow, and to work as though we have eternity, thoroughly and well, with the view of building and creating as much as lies within our strength.

COMMITTED TO CHRIST.

By Harold W. Reed. (Baker Book House, cloth binding, 112 pages, price \$2.00)

Few of us would regard college youth a forgotten group, yet considering inspirational and devotional books written for that age level, they have been neglected.

Much contemporary religious literature is for high school age and younger, which is good. But the 35

per cent of American youth between 18 and 22 years of age who are in college training for leadership should not be slighted in spiritual education.

Dr. Reed speaks with authority gained through years as student, pastor, and college president. He loves and understands young people, and is in demand as a speaker for youth meetings.

The eight messages of this volume were prepared as baccalaureate addresses to college graduates. A master in the use of language, Dr. Reed fires the imagination of young people, encouraging them to dedicate their lives to the high calling of Christian leadership.

Those who give talks to youth will find much help in this book. It is also an excellent gift for young people.

THE DESTINY OF THE SPECIES.

By Angel Martinez. (Zondervan Publishing House, cloth binding, 119 pages, price \$2.00)

The author of this volume of powerful sermons became a Christian at thirteen, and two months later preached his first sermon, converting his whole family. The Lord has used him graciously through 24 years of rich evangelistic ministry.

Having read Darwin's "Origin of the Species," Mr. Martinez conceived the idea of writing an answer for its one hundredth anniversary. He says in "The Destiny of the Species," "Where we came from we have already been; where we are going is still subject to our choice . . . There was a time when you were not, but there will never be a time again when you shall not be." The logical choice then is the destiny of heaven.

Other sermon titles include "Blueprint for Happy Living," "Highbrow at the Mourner's Bench," "The Greatest Home Run," "The Magnificent Christ," "Anatomy of Salvation," and "Good News." All of these are woven with warp of earnestness and woof of humor into a product of logic which is a joy to read.

These books may be ordered from **Defenders, Inc., P.O. Box 886, Wichita 1, Kansas.**



The Prayer Circle

DEFENDERS OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH, INC. was conceived in prayer, born through prayer, and nurtured with prayer — effectual, fervent prayer — for its maturity into a strong, interdenominational organization contending for the faith of Christ and the principles of freedom and reaching out a helping hand to fellowmen.

At the very beginning, a small Prayer Band was formed to pray for and stand with the Defenders against subversion — evolution and atheism in the public schools, liberalism in the churches, Communism in government and the liquor traffic.

Through the years, as the Defenders grew, a family relationship developed among those who stood by with prayer and encouragement, often in the face of opposition and persecution. As a family shares its problems and blessings, so does the Defender Family. A member asking for help in solving a personal, physical or spiritual problem is cheered by the knowledge that the Family is praying with him. The Defender Staff knows the value of prayer. We know it is not just a theory!

If any reader of The Defender has a need, remember the Defender Prayer Circle friends are as near as your pen or your telephone. Share with us your problems, heartaches, blessings, or questions. This department is devoted to you and your needs — and we want you to use it. This is what the Prayer Circle means to us and to you!

—*M. L. Flowers*

Mrs. J. E. F., ASHLAND CITY, TENNESSEE: Truly it is a blessed privilege to be

March 1961

listed with THE DEFENDER Prayer Circle family and to have a share in the victories, achievements, problems, and joys of our answered prayers. How I wish I had all the money that I desire so that I might share it too with God's worthy servants in their labors of love done in His name. So, I thank you much for letting me become a member of your Prayer Circle. With all my heart I believe that prayer is the main-spring of life; we pray as we live and live as we pray.

C. H., FLINT, MICHIGAN: I am writing just a note to say that we received your letter. We still get a real blessing from THE DEFENDER. We remember you daily in our prayers, that God's blessings will rest upon you and that you may be able to keep up the good work.

Mrs. F. C., CHICAGO, ILLINOIS: I do want to thank you for all you're endeavoring to do under God. Your magazine is very helpful to me. May God continue to bless and use you for His glory and give you the mind of Christ in all your undertakings for Him.

R. H. D., SPOKANE, WASHINGTON: I will do what I can to keep this worthwhile DEFENDER program moving along. The obstacles that you people overcome by faith and prayer is indeed a miracle in itself. I feel that your Christian magazine is one of the best when it comes to standing up and fighting for the truth once delivered to the saints.

MR. & MRS. C. E. V. C., ARLINGTON, KANSAS: We were glad to receive your letter and appreciate the good work you are doing and we assure you that we are praying for you and your work. It is wonderful to know that there are faithful ones who are still holding on to the old Bible truths, in this day when so many are preaching false doctrine and deceiving many.

Mrs. C. E. H., LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS: I love THE DEFENDER and what it stands for, and I pray for all the workers. I had rather read THE DEFENDER than any other magazine I get. It's a spiritual feast just to read some of those beautiful sermons.



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MISSIONS



The Role of the Foreign Missionary

BY CLAY COOPER

LET US CONCERN ourselves in this concluding article with the foreign missionary's role in missions, past and present.

One cannot research the problem of modern mediocrity in missions without running head on into a fallacy held, tacitly, maybe unconsciously, in Western lands. Namely, that to Occidentals belong the right, privilege, prerogative and responsibility of world evangelization.

**Last in a series
of three articles**

I quote again Dr. Albert Helser. He said, "The day of the white missionary being a little god is about over." And he thanked God for it. The notion should have died before it was born!

After all, Who washed who's feet in the upper room? Who girded Himself with the towel? And did not an apostle say to his converts from paganism, "We are your servants for Jesus' sake."

It is to be feared that not a few of us still suffer from superior-itis, perhaps unconsciously, with the "natives" trailing along behind in the daydream. Their inherited delusion, without question, is hindering, perhaps preventing, the Great Leap Forward in missions.

These dual attitudes are immobilizing millions of national believers by limiting their spheres of service to their own native kraals, villages, tribes or language groups. Just waiting to be tapped is an undreamed-of reservoir of intercession and manpower, as well as sacrifice and service, equal to or outshining anything the Western Church can produce.

What can the "little native" do? *He can do plenty!*

ONE NEEDS ONLY to remember Sammy Morris, the native African Kru boy. While yet in his teens, this illiterate but saved and Spirit-filled lad left his native kraal. Determined to know and experience God's fulness, he found his way to the coast and hired out on a ship bound for America. The motive? He was told of a man in New York, Mr. Stephen Merritt, who could lead him into the fulness.

En route to New York, the godless skipper of the ship and half the crew were converted through this boy's prayers and witnessing. Upon arrival, Sammy's first evening in New York City netted seventeen souls for the Kingdom. He went out on the streets and garnered them into the fold.

His ministry was short lived. He died within six months! But the impact of his life gives the lie to such inferences as "what can a mere native contribute to world evangelism?" He can do plenty . . . more than most of us are willing to concede.

It is to be feared that many a foreign missionary endeavor begins and ends with John 3:16. This abortive turn produces dwarfed Christians.

True, God sent His Son into the world that the world through Him might be saved. But there is also the fact couched in that gem of a verse, "As the Father has sent me, so send I you into the world," and no racial lines are drawn, or geographical barriers imposed. That **YOU** includes **EVERY ONE** whom the Father has given to the Son to enjoy the Sav-

iour-saved relationship. Everyone, without exception! Not just a select few! And if this principle is *not* carried out at the national church level, the saved become ingrown, the church becomes weakened by the consequent inertia and, as a result, the world perishes.

As a counterbalance, and in order to keep the whole issue in proper perspective, it should be said right here that missions is more a cardiac condition than a geographical location. It is not necessary to reside in a foreign land in order to be a foreign missionary.

J. Hudson Taylor once observed that an ocean voyage makes a missionary out of no one. A man does not go to a far off land in order to become a missionary. He goes to the "regions beyond" because he already is a missionary. *It's a heart matter.*

A Divine Example

Jesus Himself crossed the border of Palestine only once, as an infant in flight to Egypt in His mother's arms. Most of His life was localized within an area of a few square miles, but no one is going to stand up and say He was parochial or provincial or that He was not a missionary to the whole world!

He loved, lived for and died for His native land **AND** the whole world. He would have this fulfilled in **ALL** His followers.

This will encourage God's children of all races who through frailty, limitations or force of unchangeable circumstance, are prevented from physically going abroad. Many, if their **bodies** could be where their hearts are, would be found laboring for the Lord in the "uttermost parts of the earth." But such is not even necessary in all cases, or even desirable, or even Scriptural. The vast majority of "foreign missionaries" are not "on the field" at all. They are in their homelands.

It is equally true that far too many

The Defender

have long since ceased being "foreign missionaries on the field" missionaries. They have lost their once-upon-a-time "world vision" and have settled down to one village or one tribe. They have become snugly ensconced in a "these are my people" paternalism, and have largely forgotten the "other lost sheep not of this fold." Their particular adopted country has become "home" to them.

Many admit that furlough time in America, Canada or Britain is something to be endured — what with no servants, etc. — and something to be dispensed with as soon as possible. They long to "get back home" to the "foreign field," a paradoxical statement. And yet "home" it is.

Such have ceased being "foreign" missionaries. Some confess with emotion that it's true. They were more missionary before they ever crossed the ocean! How shocking it is to their earnest hearts when this suddenly dawns upon them.

Missionary Churches

To whatever extent the foregoing is true among the foreign missionaries, to that same degree is it true that the national church is weak and ineffective. Without question, the Oriental church, the African church, the Latin church will at best remain mediocre, struggling, half-alive churches unless and until they commence being missionary churches. If the center does not invade the circumference, it will weaken and die.

The very life blood of a nation, commercially, depends upon the extent and vitality of her foreign trade. It is the same with the church and her foreign missionary enterprise. "Next to our own nation," said Horatius Bonar, "must come the duty of sending the Gospel to another. We begin at the center but woe unto us if we stop there." This would apply to every nation!

With no major attempt at specific blame-fixing, we'll probably all agree the greater part of the responsibility for the stalemated situation in world missions must be borne by the home church. If the missionary has lost his world vision, probably his greatest contributing factor is the

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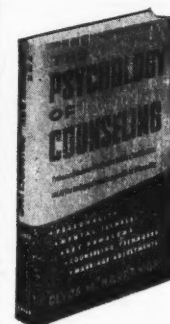
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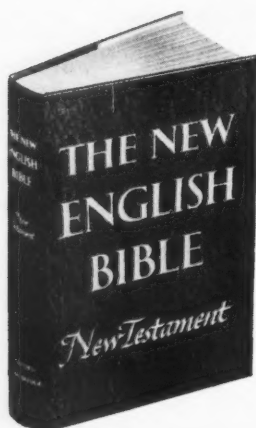
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| (2) His birthday was in the year 1 B.C. | Not 4 or 5 B.C. |
| (3) His ministry was for 10 months. | Not 3 or 3½ years. |
| (4) His crucifixion was on Wednesday. | Not Friday. |
| (5) His resurrection was on Saturday. | Not Sunday. |
| (6) His body was in the tomb exactly 3 days and 3 nights. | Not 1½ days as some teach. |
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lack of prayer support back home. If the national church operates as though the Bible contained no Great Commission, it reflects on both the home church and those she sends forth. Remedial action should be taken at once. Without it, we could go right on sponsoring Deeper Life Conferences, Pastoral Conferences for the Nationals and Youth Camps and the like till Kingdom come. But, if the Asians, the Africans, the Aborigines, et al, are not made electrically aware of the missionary content of the Bible, they will everlastingly remain lean, weak, coddled professors subject to schisms, strife and atrophy. "Where there is no vision the people perish."

Equal Responsibility

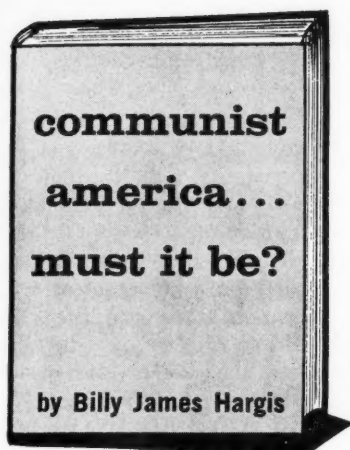
One of the crucial points in this whole discussion is this: *equal rights spell equal responsibilities*. Where there is equality of opportunity, there is also equality of responsibility, and vice versa.

One of the great needs in the modern missionary movement is the vigorous stressing of the fact that a person's race, his clime or color of skin have absolutely nothing to do with the questions relating to who may, or may not, engage in world evangelism. The command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature," is equally binding upon the Japanese and the Sudanese; the Scot and the Hottentot; the Malayan and the Canadian; upon the converted Ring-Tailed Head Hunter of Nigeria as upon the sophisticated Britisher who once ruled over him!

At one and the same time it is both a co-mission and a go-mission. Let it be remembered that: a Jew took the Gospel to Rome; a Roman in turn carried the Gospel to France; a Frenchman bore the light to Ireland; and an Irishman first went with the truth to Scotland.

This is what foreign missions ought to be . . . a *chain reaction*! It follows then that any person, or people, or nation who for any reason interrupts that chain reaction is short-circuiting the Divine Power to regenerate the souls of men and sabotaging the greatest cause in all the earth.

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Soon the listener finds himself in the "*Beautiful Garden of Eden.*" Here once man walked with God, 'mid the green profusion along the banks of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers.

As we approach the peak of Mount Nebo, we can almost hear the angelic chorus singing "*Go Down, Moses.*" It was from this vantage point that the mighty Patriarch viewed with satisfaction the land that flowed with milk and honey.

Next, we descend to "*Jordan's Stormy Banks.*" It was here that John baptized the Lamb of God ... a

meandering river which often overflows its reed-lined banks.

After taking a last fond look at the now peaceful waters of the Jordan, we turn our sight toward the city where "*Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho.*" It was here that God intervened in the capture of a mighty, rebellious people.

One of the favorite stories in the Bible is that of the Good Samaritan. Every child has at one time or another listened avidly as someone told him of that eventful journey from Jericho to Jerusalem.

Now we find ourselves taking that same road, which winds ever upward toward the summit of the mountains which is crowned by the Holy City. As we climb, we realize "*We're Marching To Zion,*" the beautiful city of God.

No visit to the Holy Land would be complete without a visit to the green pastures. While watching the sheep graze contentedly, we are reminded that "*The Lord Is My Shepherd.*"

Now for a pilgrimage to holy places within the environs of Jerusalem. Looking across the brook Kedron, we gaze toward the Mount of Olives. If we listen closely, we can almost hear the Prophet Zechariah shout: "And His feet shall stand in that day upon the Mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the East." What a blessed day that will be. We rejoice at the thought, and our hearts sing "*O Come, O Come Emmanuel.*"

Now for a visit to the Sea of Galilee. A heart-shaped body of water, it is surrounded by mountains and desert, and guarded by perpetually snow-capped Mount Hermon. Many

Bible towns border the sea, towns whose names ring with the authenticity and excitement of the four Gospels ... Bethsaida, Capernaum, Tiberias. As we gaze all around us, we are comforted by the many wonderful "*Memories of Galilee.*"

Before leaving the area our guide suggests we take a side trip, to the traditional site of the feeding of the five thousand. As we think back on that miracle of the loaves and fishes, our thoughts then dwell on one of the Christian's holiest of sacraments — the Lord's Supper. "*Break Thou the Bread of Life*" — the miracle whereby the Son of God gives His life for the ransom of many!

Outside the City Wall of Jerusalem, near the Damascus Gate, we view the spot where the Son of God paid the penalty of man's condemnation, "*Calvary.*" "He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed."

But, thanks be to God, this is not the final chapter. We cross the highway and enter the sacred environs of the Garden Tomb. We hear proclaimed the glorious message, "*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today.*"

It was here the angel broke the glad news. "He is not here: for He is risen, as He said." No more dramatic pronouncement has ever been made in the history of mankind than those words spoken of angels to the women who came to the empty tomb.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMENTS

Compiled and Edited by the Defender Research Staff

LESSON NUMBER ONE

March 19, 1961

JESUS PRAYS FOR HIS OWN

KEY WORD: One

The 17th chapter of John is termed the high-priestly prayer of the Lord. Its great spiritual implications make it impossible to plumb its depths or scale its heights. We only marvel at such boundless love and solicitude.

This petition was uttered for every Christian believer, present and future, until the Church stands complete before Him in glory. (Revelation 7:9-17.)

It has been said concerning this prayer, "There is no voice which has ever been uttered, either in heaven or earth, more exalted, more holy, more fruitful, more sublime, than this prayer."

KEY VERSE: John 17:16

"They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world."

It is a mysterious thing that this world, into which God placed His first man, Adam, should have been permitted to become the realm of the Evil One. Yet, because God desires the creature to choose Him, the Creator, He gives him the right to select his master. (Romans 6:16.)

It is also one of the mysteries of God that when a man chooses God through His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, he immediately becomes a citizen of another world. Being a

"new creature" (I Corinthians 5:17), he is now a fit subject for that world where Jesus reigns.

KEY FACT: Jesus Cares For His Own

Jesus, praying for Himself, as recorded in the first five verses of this chapter, asks that the Father shall glorify Him in this hour and that by successful completion of His mission He in turn will glorify the Father.

He gazes back to the glory that He shared with the Father before the world was. He has obeyed Him in every respect. He has come to the hour of humiliation and horrible agony. Then His thoughts turn to the future and the final glorification of those who take over the world-shaking task of projecting His Gospel to the end of the earth and of the age. "As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I sent them into the world."

These were carefully chosen, God-fearing men who, when imbued by the Holy Spirit, would take up the torch and carry it high to light up "the uttermost part of the earth."

Now, as ripples from a pebble cast into water roll on and on until they reach the farthest shores, so this prayer widens to include all who, down the path of the centuries, would believe on Him because these eleven other men were faithful. They, too, should share not only the labor but the unity in Him, "that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me."

the ages drew to a climax. The purpose of the plot unfolded; the last words of the star were spoken.

Every person standing on Golgotha that day was either an active participant in the drama, or a mute witness to the completion of God's re-

LESSON NUMBER TWO

March 26, 1961

JESUS GIVES HIS LIFE

KEY WORD: Fulfilled

On Calvary the great drama of

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demptive plan. But, strange and sad, they did not know — not even the high priest. The Apostle Paul explains the reason why in I Corinthians 2:7-8.

Is it still a mystery why the sinless One should take upon Himself the sin of all humanity, suffering the agony and shame of the Cross? No, (see I John 3:8).

The scripture was fulfilled. Satan, erstwhile "prince of this world" is now only a usurper. The rightful King will some day claim His throne, for He said, "All things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me." (Luke 24:44.)

KEY VERSE: John 19:19

"And Pilate wrote a title, and put it on the cross. And the writing was, JESUS OF NAZARETH THE KING OF THE JEWS."

The governor, resenting the Jews who had hounded him into executing an innocent Man, achieved a small revenge in the sign in three languages that he ordered nailed to the cross — JESUS OF NAZARETH KING OF THE JEWS. The rage of the priests was futile. "What I have written, I have written," said Pilate with such vehemence they dared not demonstrate further.

In this sign Pilate prophesied more of truth than he realized, for here upon the Cross he had hung not only the King of the Jews, but the King of the whole wide world.

KEY FACT: Christ Died For Us

There is no event in history more marked by Satanic brutality than the crucifixion. The gentle, sinless Jesus became despised and rejected, wounded for our transgressions and bruised for our iniquities; for, in the divine purpose of God, the iniquity of us all was laid upon Him, though He had done no violence, neither spoken deceitfully. (Isaiah 53.)

Only a few days before the people had shouted, "Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord!" Now all semblance of human kindness was gone.

LESSON NUMBER THREE

April 2, 1961

CHRIST, OUR LIVING LORD

KEY WORD: Weeping

On a fateful day in Galilee a woman named Mary, of Magdala, met Jesus, and at His touch was never the same again. For out of her body He cast seven evil spirits, and she, along with other women similarly healed, because of their deep gratitude, had ministered to the needs of the Lord and His disciples from their own income.

These were the ones who had stood watching the crucifixion and at the end assisted with the burial. Weeping had endured, not only for a night, but for all the days and nights since the arrest of their Lord.

KEY VERSE: John 20:21

"Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you."

At evening Jesus came to His disciples to give them a preliminary view of their task. The door of their room was locked, but to Him there are no barriers. Wherever hearts are open to welcome Him, there He will enter and abide. His first word to them was "Peace!" That is the inevitable result of His presence. Peace came to their troubled souls that night. They had considered the story of the women "but idle tales, and they believed them not." Now disbelief became assurance and grief turned to joy as the healing peace of Jesus enveloped them.

KEY FACT: Christ, Our Living Lord

The skeptic may scoff at the Resurrection of the Lord and demand proof. Luke asserts that "He showed himself alive by many infallible proofs." Do we need such proof today? We do not, because we have evidence the disciples did not have.

No, proof is not needed where the evidence is so plain. He is the living Christ and He lives in the hearts of His disciples.

LESSON NUMBER FOUR

April 9, 1961

THE SOURCE OF TRUE WISDOM

KEY WORD: Wisdom

The remaining lessons of this quarter are based on the Wisdom literature of the Bible. The theme, "Biblical Wisdom and Ethical Problems," focuses on the discipline which marks a God-filled life. The teaching is practical and can be applied to all human situations.

Three months of study of this literature will be time well spent, for its very essence is the duty and obligation of all men to fear and love God. This is summarized in Ecclesiastes 12:13, "Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."

The word, "wisdom," is given several different meanings in both dictionary and Scripture. In the dictionary it is "knowledge with capacity to use it; perception of the best ends and best means" — in the Scripture it refers to skill in the arts; the instinct of birds and beasts; learning; discretion; spiritual insight. The last definition means, of course, the true wisdom of divine origin.

The experiences of life present either a false or a true wisdom. That which does not consider spiritual values is based on a false premise — it is the wisdom of the world in which "every way of a man is right in his own eyes." (Proverbs 21:2.) But eyes not fixed on God become myopic, not able to see life in true perspective. After enumerating the Christian virtues of faith, moral courage, knowledge, self-control, patience, godliness, brotherly-kindness and love, Peter goes on to say "he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off." (II Peter 1:5-9.)

The sum of man's knowledge increases with each generation, but earthly wisdom is still foolishness with God, (James 3:14-18). The wisdom of God culminated at the Cross of Christ, (I Corinthians 2:7-8), (Ephesians 3:8-11). It is the very apex of wisdom, far past all human thought, (Romans 11:33-34).

KEY VERSE: Job 28:28

"And unto man he said, Behold, the fear of the Lord, that is wisdom; and to depart from evil is understanding."

Hospitals, doctors' and psychiatrists' offices are crowded with people suffering from physical and mental illness, much of which has been produced through wrong thinking and wrong emotions. A fit of anger manufactures a poison within the body which could cause severe illness or death if administered from without. Of course it acts more slowly, but continued fits of temper eventually collect an excessive price of physical suffering. And that is just as true of fear, worry, greed, envy, hatred, lust and all the tensions of modern living.

Solomon said, "He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding; but he that is hasty of spirit exalteth folly. A tranquil heart is the life of the flesh, but envy the rottenness of the bones. . . A merry heart doeth good like a medicine; but a broken spirit drieth up the bones." (Proverbs 14:29-30, 17:22.)

Here is the beginning of wisdom which leads a sinner to yield himself to the Lord and throw himself on His mercy. As soon as he does so, the pressures are released and the burdens fall away. Jesus invites, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28.) The burden of sin and the onus of a guilty conscience are gone forever, and in their place enter heavenly peace and rest. To depart from evil brings healing of body and mind, a glad heart and a cheerful face.

KEY FACT: Anyone May Possess True Wisdom

God is Divine Wisdom and its only source. He created the universe. He designed the earth especially for the habitation of man, whom He then made in His own likeness, endowed him with the capacity for wisdom, and gave him the privilege to choose or reject it — and Him.

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all wisdom is to be found in Christ. He is the speaker, Wisdom personified, who asserts that He was with God in creation. "The Lord possessed me in the beginning of his way, before his works of old... then was I by him, as one brought up with him, (or, "as a master workman," American Standard Version); and I was daily his delight, rejoicing always before him." (Proverbs 8:22-31.) John 1:1-3 is its New Testament analogy. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and

without him was not any thing made that was made."

The tributes of Paul in I Corinthians 1:24 and Colossians 2:3 also agree with Solomon... "Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God," "in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge." Taking these two passages in connection with Christ's own statement, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh into the Father but by me," it is evident that in order to possess the wisdom of God, we must find it in His Son. So... "let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom," (Colossians 3:16).

LESSON NUMBER FIVE

April 16, 1961

WHEN THE RIGHTEOUS SUFFER

KEY WORD: Job

The name Job means "persecuted." The man Job was so morally perfect, upright, evil-hating and God-fearing that God commended him to Satan, calling him, "my servant Job." The book of Job could well be titled "Human Perfection Tested," for when trials and suffering came the "perfect" Job uttered bitter complaints.

During the debate which followed, Job made nine speeches vindicating himself as righteous in thought, word and life before God and men. His three opponents replied with three scathing speeches each, accusing him of lying, hypocrisy and secret sins. This lack of sympathy on the part of relatives and friends became the acme of his suffering and increased his determination to justify himself in their sight. At the end of the thirty-first chapter they gave up and "ceased to answer Job, because he was righteous in his own eyes."

Thereupon came a young man, Elihu, who had listened intently to the debate. His name means, "My God is He." His stated reason for taking up the cause of Job was, "Behold, I am according to thy wish in God's stead," (33:6). He was a mediator and a type of Christ, our Mediator.

After Elihu had presented his discourse, the voice of the Lord was heard "out of the whirlwind" asking, "Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge?" Job was given a set of "examination questions" in which he failed miserably, admitting "I am vile; what shall I answer thee? I will lay my hand upon my mouth... I will proceed no further, (40:4-5)... I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes," (42:6).

This great book records the sufferings of a real person (see Ezekiel 14:14 and James 5:11), and proves: (1) the personality and malice of Satan; (2) that worldly wisdom cannot know God; (3) the folly of self-righteousness; (4) the need of a mediator between God and man; (5) the absolute perfection of God; (6) the vileness in God's sight of the most humanly perfect person; and finally, (7) that "the Lord is very pitiful and of tender mercy." (James 5:11.)

KEY VERSE: Job 1:11

"But put forth thy hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face."

Satan, the slanderer, impugned Job's integrity, accusing him of being good because it pays to be good, and dared God to put him to the test.

Humanity's great and ceaseless cry is "Why?" Why has this happened to me? Why do I suffer so? Why did God take my dear one? Why, O why? And we, like Job, stress I, me, my, while blaming God for it all!

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But as long as sin reigns in this world no human flesh can escape. Said Jesus, "In the world ye shall have tribulation." Happy is he who can appropriate the promise that follows, "But be of good cheer; I have overcome the world." (John 16:33.) All of us need the light of divine wisdom in regard to the suffering and trials of this life and the reward for the victor. James 1:12 describes the reward.

The Book of Job does not completely answer the question as to why the righteous suffer. The New Testament supplies more information through the teaching and example of Christ. But not until the whole of God's purpose is revealed in the light of eternity shall we fully understand the *Why*. A deaf youth wrote on a chalkboard before his classmates this comforting thought, "When the beautiful songs of the angels shall burst on our enraptured ears, scarce shall we regret that our hearing has never been marred by earthly sounds." Perhaps we too can understand that victorious suffering is the price demanded for true appreciation of heaven.

We live in a world governed by the laws of nature. The earthquake, the tornado, the laws of gravity, of chemistry and physics . . . combine to bring suffering and death. The recent air crash over Brooklyn demonstrates the immutability of natural laws. Those who died did not break those laws, they were broken by them. They were the "innocent bystanders" who happened to be at that particular place at the exact moment the laws went into operation.

KEY FACT: Satan Can Go Just So Far

Satan cannot pass beyond the protecting love of God thrown around those who are His. The Apostle Paul states this very clearly, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." (1 Corinthians 10:13.)

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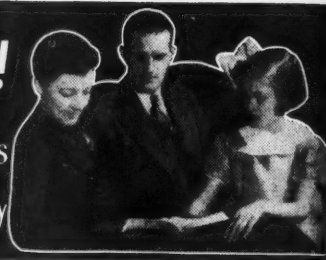
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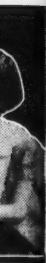
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